

RE: *Northbridge School Committee*

DATE: *January 26, 2010*

TIME: *7:00 P.M.*

LOCATION: *Northbridge High School Media Center*

MINUTES

Present: *Chairman Michael McGrath, Vice Chairman Dr. Karen Kittredge, Fred Beauregard, Susan Brouwer, Mary Contino, Julie Gawlak, Mike LeBrasseur, Selena Livingston, Superintendent Gorky, Assistant Superintendent Spitulnik, and Melissa Walker*

Absent: *Rich Deluca*

Call to Order: *Chairman McGrath called the meeting to order in open session at 6:17 P.M. with a roll call vote 8-0.*

Mike LeBrasseur made a motion to go enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to collective bargaining contract negotiations in accordance with C39s23B of M.G.L and reconvene in open session. Karen Kittredge seconded. The motion carried with a roll call vote of 8-0.

Mary Contino made a motion to end executive session and move to open session at 7:10 pm. Julie Gawlak seconded. The motion carried with a roll call vote of 8-0.

Certificates of Recognition:

Superintendent Gorky presented the following nurses and nurse assistants with a certificate of recognition for the hard work and many hours they put in with the H1N1 vaccine, giving over 1200 vaccines. NPS has held 4 clinics with the 5th scheduled for February 10th at the High School.

*Lori Johnson, Nurse Leader
Jeanne Gniadek, Northbridge Board of Health
Susan Calabro, Middle School
Rebecca Padula, Middle School
Michele Rokes, Elementary School
Joan Thorne, Balmer School
Donna Ciccone, High School
Sharon Parslow, Middle School*

Public Comment: *none*

Student Report:

Student Advisory Member – Jessica Donati

Academics: *Grades close January 27, 2010, 2nd semester begins January 28, 2010, Report cards being issued February 3, 2010. SAT prep courses are being offered to juniors.*

Activities:

- *On January 21, 2010 NHS Link Crew will sponsor their first cocoa cram. Study time for finals, serving hot cocoa.*
- *Friends of Rachel had their first meeting with approximately 30 students attending.*
- *We have a new club, R/C Club, remote controlled planes, helicopters, etc.*
- *Student Council gave compatibility test to all students and their results will be revealed during spirit week in February.*

Athletics: *All teams continue to do well. Spring teams have begun to meet with captains and coaches.*

Consent Calendar: *Mike McGrath made a motion to accept the consent calendar items. Sue Brouwer asked that all these items be moved to the Accept section for further discussion.*

Accept:

1. Approve December 22, 2009 School Committee Minutes:

Mike LeBrasseur made a motion to accept the December 22, 2009 School Committee minutes as amended. Sue Brouwer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote with Mary Contino, Fred Beauregard abstaining, 6-0. (Rich Deluca absent)

Approve January 11, 2010 School Committee Minutes:

Karen Kittredge made a motion to accept the January 11, 2010 School Committee minutes as presented. Mary Contino seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote with Fred Beauregard, Susan Brouwer and Mike LeBrasseur abstaining, 6-0. (Rich Deluca absent)

2. Approve Warrants:

- 30-26s 12/23/2009 in the amount of \$290,299.81*
- 30-28s 1/7/2010 in the amount of \$161,305.18*
- 30-30s 1/21/2010 in the amount of \$387,833.60*

Karen Kittredge made a motion to accept the above warrants. Mary Contino seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote. Yes - 7, No - 1(Sue Brouwer voting No), absent - 1(Rich Deluca absent.) Discussion on Warrants will be added to the next agenda.

3. Accept:

Dell Donations by Andrew Palsha

*Beaumont Nursing Home \$500.00 donation for
NHS athletic scholarship*

Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce Grants:

A Spray for a Brighter Day ~ \$500.00

Let's Put Northbridge on the Map ~ \$540.00

Grant 632 Academic Support Grant ~ \$12,600

Grant 762 ARRA-IDEA PK (Early Childhood Stimulus) ~ \$15,180

*Park Place International \$2,350.00 in Wal-Mart Gift Cards and 12 Food Baskets to Balmer
for needy families*

*A motion was made by Karen Kittredge to approve the above donations with Mary Contino
seconded. The motion passed with a roll call vote 8-0. (Rich Deluca absent)*

4. Presentations:

Lasell Field:

*Brian Burke and Rob Knapik presented a PowerPoint demonstration in the name of Friends
of Lasell Field with an overview of replacing the field with turf. Funding will be from
corporate sponsorship, foundation grants, and individual support. Friends of Lasell Inc. will
apply for tax-exempt status under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Once
designated tax-exempt by the IRS, donations will be tax deductible. In return for large
donations, Friends of Lasell Field, Inc. intends to work with the Town to design and provide
the right to include the name and logo of the primary corporate sponsor into the name of
field/stadium, and also placement of signage that acknowledges major corporate donors at
the entrance to the field or other prominent locations.*

*The school committee was asked to support the installation of artificial turf on Lasell Field
and sponsor an Article to appear on the Warrant for the spring 2010 Northbridge Annual
Town Meeting authorizing the School Committee to modify the name of the field.*

*Sue Brouwer was advised by the ethics commission to file a form of disclosure for the Lasell
Field project, which she has done.*

*Karen Kittredge made a motion to place article (Northbridge School Committee) on the
spring town warrant for the town meeting. Mary Contino seconded the motion with Fred
Beauregard, Selena Livingston, and Julie Gawlak abstaining. The motion passed with a roll
call vote of 5-0. (Rich Deluca absent)*

Amnesty International:

*The co-presidents, Kinga Boratyn, Cassie McGrath, and Gabbie Mello of the Amnesty
International and the advisor, Stephanie Fuchs, presented a PowerPoint on the
accomplishment and Future Goals of the Amnesty International club at the High School.*

Technology:

The Technology Team, Steve DiMare, Steve Falconer, Brian L'Heureux, and Steve McKinstry, presented a PowerPoint on the Technology Plan and future projects.

5. Amend Agenda:

Karen Kittredge made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss the Massachusetts School Building Authority for the Town of Northbridge. Mary Contino seconded the motion. The Town Manager spoke on a draft agreed-upon procedure report acceptance and non-acceptance form that must be signed by the Board of Selectman and the School Committee. The Motion passed with a roll call vote of 8-0. (Rich Deluca absent)

Mary Contino made a motion to have the Superintendent, School Business Manager and Chair of the School Committee sign the procedure report, project number C20023808. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 8-0. (Rich Deluca absent)

6. Superintendent's FY 11 Budget:

Superintendent Gorky presented the Proposed FY 11 Budget to the School Committee. The entire leadership was present to answer any questions. Mary Contino made a motion to accept the FY 11 Budget as presented. Julie Gawlak seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 8-0. (Rich Deluca absent)

7. Discussions:

Self Evaluation Timeline - The self evaluation should be in the next school committee packet.

Charter Review Process – This will have a special committee that will review the Town Charter. The committee should comprise of volunteers from the Board of Selectman, Finance Committee, School Committee, Planning Board, and Town Moderator. This will be further discussed at the next school committee meeting.

8. Report: Superintendent ~ Susan M. Gorky

- *The Superintendent congratulated Nicholas Payne, another recipient of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship.*
- *The Race to the Top Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education was recently signed.*
- *Preschool registration, February 1-26.*
- *Kindergarten registration, February 24, 9:00-3:30*
- *Online payments at NPS.org*
- *Thank you to Rene Lafayette*
- *Students writing a column in the NorthbridgeTimes.com*
- *In-house credit recovery program for students*
- *MCAS tutoring*
- *Community Reading day, March 2 at NES*
- *Team Maya Morning Meeting and Holiday Celebration*
- *Poetry Café*

Ongoing Business:

New Business: *Consent Calendar at next meeting*
 Update on Policy Subcommittee at next meeting

Executive Session:

A motion was made to re-enter into executive session for the purposes of discussing collective bargaining strategy and contract negotiations with non-union personnel and not returning to open session at 9:55 pm

Adjournment:

Respectfully submitted,

Selena Livingston
Secretary to the School Committee

SL:kab

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